Rhode Island’s Healthcare Workforce

Data and Projections

April 1, 2022
What do we know about the Healthcare Workforce in Rhode Island?

Healthcare occupations = Standard job types, regardless of sector (e.g., school nurse)
Healthcare sector/industry = Standard employer types, regardless of occupations (e.g., food server in a hospital)
Healthcare Industry in Rhode Island

As of the 3rd quarter of 2021

- The Healthcare and Social Assistance sector employs 76,600 workers in RI, or **18.6% of the total private sector workforce in RI**. It is the single biggest sector of employment in RI.
  - 6.6% of the RI workforce is employed in Ambulatory Healthcare Services
  - 5.5% of the RI workforce is employed in Hospitals
  - 3.5% of the RI workforce is employed in Nursing and Residential Care Facilities
  - 2.8% of the RI workforce is employed in Social Assistance

- The average annual wage for this sector is $54,000; the average annual wage for the RI workforce as a whole is $58,800
  - Hospitals and Ambulatory Health Care Services have a higher annual median wage than the rest of the RI workforce

- A projected 85,100 positions in Healthcare will be/will need to be filled between 2018-2028

Source: Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training, Labor Market Information Division
Impact of COVID on the Healthcare and Social Assistance Sector

- During the pandemic related shutdown, this sector lost 17,400 jobs, accounting for over one-fifth of the sector’s employment.

- Several industries within this sector were totally or partially impacted by the social distancing guidelines, as Day Care Centers were ordered closed, medical appointments were limited to telephone and video interviews, and elective surgeries were cancelled.

- Through February 2022 the sector has regained 13,200 jobs, about three-quarters of the jobs lost during the shutdown.

- Ambulatory Heath Services is the only industry group within the sector to have regained all the jobs lost and is now has 1,300 more jobs than it did in February 2020.

Source: Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training, Labor Market Information Division.
These are among the healthcare occupations with the most projected demand. Nursing Assistants and RNs will continue to be in high demand.
Demographics of Healthcare Workers

Compared to the total private sector workforce in the U.S., the Healthcare and Social Assistance sector employs fewer workers under age 25, more workers between 25-34, and far more women than men.

Source: Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training, Labor Market Information Division
Demographics of Workers in the Healthcare Industry

Compared to the total private sector workforce in the U.S., the Healthcare and Social Assistance sector employs workers with more education. Race/ethnic distribution is similar although Healthcare employs more Black workers.

Source: Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training, Labor Market Information Division
Healthcare Support Occupations are generally lower-paid than Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations and more diverse in terms of race and ethnicity.

Demographics across Occupational Groups

Source: 2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates Includes Hispanic or Latino ethnicity does not sum to 100% within occupational groups
High-paying RI Jobs by Education Level

There are a number of high-paying jobs in the Healthcare industry in Rhode Island that do not require advanced training, including MRI Techs and Surgical Tech.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor’s Degree</th>
<th>Associate’s Degree</th>
<th>Post-secondary, No Degree</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Network and Computer Systems Administrators: $66,560</td>
<td>• Nuclear Medicine Technologists: $74,880</td>
<td>• Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics: $57,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Registered Nurses: $59,360</td>
<td>• Diagnostic Medical Sonographers: $69,530</td>
<td>• LPNs/LVNs: $44,880</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Accountants and Auditors: $55,930</td>
<td>• MRI Technologists: $69,360</td>
<td>• Surgical Technologists: $43,490</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Compliance Officers: $53,210</td>
<td>• Dental Hygienists: $68,120</td>
<td>• Dental Assistants: $35,300</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training, Labor Market Information Division.

*Median Entry-level wages. Assumes a 40-hr workweek. Does not include managerial occupations. RNs can also attain employment with Associate’s degree.
What is Rhode Island Doing to Prepare the Healthcare Workforce?
Real Jobs RI Healthcare Industry Job Placements

Since 2016, a total of 1,953 people have been placed into jobs within the Healthcare and Social Assistance sector through Real Jobs RI programs. The majority of placements have taken place in the last 3 years.

- Approximately 700 participants were placed with nursing, rehabilitation, hospice, or home care agencies.
- Sixty percent of people were placed into full-time jobs (35+ hours/week).
- The average wage for full-time workers was $35,443.
- 73% of people were placed into Healthcare Support Occupations or Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations.
Healthcare Workforce Training Programs

- Certified Nursing Assistants
- Patient Support Specialists
- Direct Support Professionals
- Behavioral Healthcare
- RN to BSN
- Mental Health First Aid
- Medication Technician
- Medical Assistants
- Phlebotomy Training
- Dental Assistant
- Pharm Tech
- Medical Interpreter Training
- Community Health Workers
# Healthcare Related Partnerships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Real Jobs Rhode Island</th>
<th>Real Pathways Rhode Island</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Care Industry Partnership (Healthcentric Advisors)</td>
<td>Genesis Center</td>
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<td>Healthy Jobs (Rhode Island College)</td>
<td>Newport Community School</td>
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<td>CCRI Deal Partnership</td>
<td>Crossroads RI</td>
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<td>Transforming Health in RI (University of Rhode Island)</td>
<td>Community Provider Network RI</td>
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<td>Care New England Career Advancement Partnership</td>
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<td>Lifespan Workforce STAT Partnership</td>
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<td>OPC Workforce Innovation Partnership</td>
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<td>SEIU 1199’s Quality Care Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>SkillsRI Real Jobs Partnership (Skills for Rhode Island’s Future)</td>
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<td>American Safety Healthcare Partnership</td>
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<td>Clinica Esperanza Partnership</td>
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